



NAVY NEWS



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Forward ... from the Sea

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CNO Clark Says FMP Critical to Future Readiness

By Chief Journalist Walter T. Ham IV, CNO Public Affairs

FAIRFAX, Va. (NNS) — Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark called on the Naval Sea Systems Command's Fleet Modernization Program (FMP) to "challenge all the assumptions" and continue to sharpen its focus on providing the fleet with the best operational and technical modifications available to meet the challenges of the 21st Century.

Clark talked about the importance of the program's modernization efforts during his recent address at their annual policy implementation conference.

The FMP is responsible for the planning, budgeting and accomplishment of ship improvements in response to changing operational requirements and the emergence of new threats.

The CNO recalled his own shipboard experiences as a main propulsion assistant, chief engineer and commanding officer.

He emphasized the lessons he's learned about the need for speed and agility in the ship modernization process "so that men and women who climb on them today and take them over the horizon have the very best capabilities that we know how to provide."

By keeping its focus on providing Sailors with the best technology available, the CNO said the FMP is keeping the fleet prepared to project American sovereignty.

"The requirement for us to have combat credible forces able to reach the far corners of the earth has never been greater," the CNO said. "This morning, 33 percent of the Navy is on the point — one third going, one third coming and one third ready to go. We don't have any excess capacity anymore."

To keep the Navy ready for this challenging deployment cycle, Clark said it would take an ongoing assessment of the fleet's current needs and a continued focus on finding ways to maximize the "utility" of every platform in the nation's naval arsenal.

"If we don't have the courage to look one another in the eyes and say this isn't producing the product that the user believes ought to be produced, then we're not ever going to be able to get the right answer to this question: 'how can we produce a better product?'" the CNO said.

"Remember, the Navy starts with the fleet and the young men and women who need the products you're going to produce here today," Clark concluded.

Homecoming



Mess Management Specialist 2nd Class Andreas Guzman greets his wife Amalia after his ship, USS *Devastator* (MCM 6) returned to its Ingleside, Texas, homeport. *Devastator* and three other mine countermeasures ships completed a six-month deployment to the U.S. West Coast and Canada August 3rd. Photo by LT Marc Boyd

DoD Targets Ecstasy Use By Service Members

By the American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Ecstasy is the fastest-growing abused drug in the United States. The Department of Defense (DoD) is taking steps to ensure that it does not endanger service members.

Ecstasy, a drug with no known medical use, is also known by the street names "X," "XTC," "clarity,"

"essence," "adam," "lover's speed" and "hug drug."

Its abuse has exploded among young people, especially those between 18 and 21. In 1997, federal authorities seized 49,000 ecstasy pills. Two years later, the number of pills seized increased to more than 900,000.

DoD officials said 1,070 cases of

ecstasy abuse in Fiscal Year 2000 accounted for 5.6 percent of all "positives" in the DoD urinalysis program. This puts ecstasy behind marijuana, cocaine and methamphetamine as the most abused drugs in the military.

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More Than 5,000 Advanced to Chief Petty Officer

By Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Thousands of petty officers first class across the fleet recently received the good news that they will join the ranks of chief petty officers next month, thanks to the largest advancement opportunity in recent years.

Vice Adm. Norb Ryan Jr., Chief of Naval Personnel, released the results of the FY02 active-duty E-7 selection board this week, announcing the selection of 5,455 Sailors for advancement to chief

petty officer.

Advancement opportunity continues its upward trend, with 28.8 percent of this year's eligible candidates selected for CPO. This represents a 2.8 percent increase from FY01 and a 16.4 percent increase from 1996.

This year's E-7 selection board marked a Navy first. Early candidates, Sailors with a one year time-in-grade waiver with an "early promote" on their most recent evaluation, were

considered by the board for the first time. The board selected 42.8 percent of this year's early candidates for promotion to CPO.

After reviewing thousands of records, the board identified several top factors as the most important characteristics for success in their selection. These factors included sustained superior performance in billets showing career diversity, documented leadership roles, strong evaluations and steady sea/shore rotation.

"These results indicate we are continuing to reward our top performers in higher numbers," said Ryan. "We are promoting the Sailors who are taking the hard jobs, especially at sea, and have proved themselves as leaders. I congratulate each of the selectees for achieving this important milestone in their careers."

For more information on the advancements, go to www.persnet.navy.mil/pers8/p85/p852/pers-852.htm.

Captain's Gig



USS *Ticonderoga* (CG 47) deck department personnel raise the captain's gig after a recent port visit in Malaga, Colombia, during the 42nd annual UNITAS exercise. The UNITAS exercise was hosted by the Colombian Navy. Photo by Photographer's Mate 2nd Class Ramon De Jesus

CNO Approves New IT Command

By the Navy Wire Service

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark has approved the creation of the Naval Network Operations Command (NNOC) here to oversee the Navy's major information technology programs.

The command, a result of the merger of the Naval Computer and Telecommunications Command (NAVCOMTELCOM) and Task Force Navy Marine Corps Intranet (TF NMCI), will be based at the existing headquarters located at the Naval District Washington complex in Northwest. Capt. Charles G. Cooper, commander of NAVCOMTELCOM, will initially take the reins of the new command.

NNOC will operate the "Information Technology for the 21st Century" (IT-21), a program designed to upgrade network systems aboard ships. The new command will also oversee the Navy's computer network attack and defense work through IT-21 and the NMCI procurement with Electronic Data Systems Corporation.

The creation of this command will allow the Navy to support the command and control of deployed forces through a network of

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Active-Duty Restricted Line Communities Established

By Lynette S. Williams, Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — In keeping with the Navy's goal of a competitive, streamlined service, the Secretary of the Navy has approved the establishment of two new active-duty officer restricted line communities.

Information professional (IP) and human resources (HR) will become new career options for active-duty officers beginning Oct. 1.

In response to growing demands for specialized skills in information technology, the IP community, designated 160X, will provide expertise in information, command and control, and space systems. Skills will be focused on the planning, acquisition, operation, maintenance and security of computer systems that support Navy operational

and business processes.

The HR community, designated 120X, will plan, program and execute life-cycle management of the Navy's most important resource — people. These functions encompass the combined elements of manpower, personnel, training and recruiting.

"Our goal is to provide all officers the opportunity for challenging, rewarding and competitive careers," said Vice Adm. Norb R. Ryan Jr., Chief of Naval Personnel. "This is an important step forward for the future of the Navy officer corps."

Billets for the new communities will initially derive from the fleet support officer (FSO) communities: 1100, 1000 and 1050 billet bases.

Members of the FSO community who

possess the specific skill sets and leadership experience required for the new communities may request to be selected for the communities during a special transition board that convenes in September.

Lateral transfers from other designators will begin when a board convenes in November. Although initial entry into both communities will be by way of a lateral transfer, the Navy will evaluate the need for direct accessions into both communities at a later date.

For more information, go to the FSO community Web page at www.persnet.navy.mil/fleetsup/note.asp or contact Capt. Moira F. Wurzel, FSO community manager, at (703) 697-8761 or e-mail to n131g@bupers.navy.mil.

CNP Authorizes Shore Berthing for Single, Shipboard Petty Officers 3rd Class

By Chief Journalist Milinda D. Jensen, Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Beginning Oct. 1, a petty officer third class assigned to a ship, and who has four or more years in the Navy, will be authorized berthing ashore.

Vice Adm. Norb R. Ryan Jr., Chief of Naval Personnel, recently authorized shore berthing for all shipboard petty officers third class who meet the requirements. The Sailors must have their commanding officer's permission.

Sailors with less than four years of service and no dependents are not entitled to receive either bachelor allowance for housing (BAH) or overseas housing allowance (OHA).

The commanding officers of each shore-based

facility are being directed to determine whether the Sailors will be berthed in bachelor's quarters or draw a housing allowance. Senior personnel, who are BQ residents, will not be involuntarily displaced to provide berthing for single petty officers third class.

The change in policy was sparked by ET3 Travis Caddell, a crewmember aboard USS *Ponce* (LPD 15) in Norfolk, Va. He recently questioned the previous policy in an e-mail to Ryan.

Proving that the concerns of Sailors are the concerns of leadership, Ryan listened and recommended that BAH or OHA be authorized for shipboard Sailors without dependents.

"I received an e-mail

from Petty Officer Caddell, who told me that he'd seen the NAVADMINs come out each month, and said we were working on the right things, but felt more could be done," Ryan said. "Sometimes these questions result in changes in policy, or at least a second look at the way we do business."

As a result of that e-mail, the Secretary of the Navy and Chief of Naval Operations gave the green light to accelerate the pursuit of legislation to authorize berthing ashore for petty officers third class who meet the requirements.

Caddell noted that thousands of petty officers third class are single Sailors. He said that after a deployment, he watched

friends go home, while he stayed on the ship. For 365 days a year, the ship was his home and work site.

"I'm paying to live ashore, so I'll have a good attitude when I come to work every day," Caddell said in his correspondence to Ryan.

"Ashore berthing for these hard-working men and women is a long overdue opportunity to improve the quality of life for our petty officers third class," Ryan added.

For additional information, go to www.psafe.navy.mil and click on BAH or OAH. To access the CNP message, go to www.bupers.navy.mil/navadmin/nav01/nav01184.txt.

Master-At-Arms Force to Grow in FY04

By JOC Milinda D. Jensen, Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — For the first time, the September Navy-wide examination will feature a petty officer third class exam for the master-at-arms (MA) rating.

The MA force is expected to grow from the current level of 1,850 to approximately 4,862 by fiscal year 2004. That expansion will increase the MA force by more than 263 percent.

"The expansion plan in the near future for the MA rating is unprecedented in the last 10 years and is an excellent opportunity for conversion candidates," according to Lt. Cmdr.

Myles Brooks, enlisted community manager for legal and law enforcement. "The Navy is looking for Sailors who are interested in joining the ranks of the master-at-arms force during this period of expansion. In addition to participating in an exciting role in anti-terrorism protection and law enforcement, the MA rating offers excellent opportunity for career progression and advancement."

The growing threat of terrorism is one good reason to expand the master-at-arms force. In addition to the security protection they can provide, MAs also conduct

entry and access control, support crisis-response teams, conduct physical security and vulnerability assessments, and will be assigned to flight-line, pier, harbor and special-security missions.

Sailors who possess the law enforcement specialist designator (SNEC 9545) — including master-at-arms seaman, seaman, airman, or fireman — are eligible to participate in the Navy-wide MA3 advancement exam.

In December 2000, manpower and personnel and the anti-terrorism/force protection and information assurance divisions began the

initiative of moving the Navy Security Force into the 21st Century concept. That concept envisioned the need for a more streamlined rating accomplished through conversions from existing ratings, and for the first time, recruiting directly into the MA rating.

Contact your local command career counselor for details on conversion to the MA rating. For more information and guidance on NAVADMIN 185/01 contact the legal/law enforcement enlisted community manager at DSN 224-0805 or (703) 614-0805, or e-mail to N132D14@bupers.navy.mil.

Kitty Hawk Sailors Promoted Through CAP

By Seaman Journalist Jeff Williams, USS Kitty Hawk Public Affairs

YOKOSUKA, Japan (NNS) — Seventeen Sailors aboard USS *Kitty Hawk* (CV 63) recently received a surprise from their commanding officer when they were meritoriously promoted through the command advancement program (CAP).

Captain Allen G. Myers, *Kitty Hawk's* commanding officer, surprised the recipients when he showed up at their workstations and advanced each one on the spot. He said that CAP is about Sailors and the great jobs they do.

"These Sailors have been advanced because they've worked hard," Myers said. "They've proven they have what it takes to take on more responsibility and leadership roles."

CAP is a management option that allows commanding officers to advance personnel who passed the previous advancement exam without being advanced. Commands are allotted a limited number of CAP

quotas, based on the number of personnel assigned.

Sailors must meet all requirements for advancement aside from test scores. Division officers, leading chief petty officers and leading petty officers nominate the top Sailors for CAP. The information is then submitted to the command's educational services officer for evaluation before a selection is made.

Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handler) 3rd Class Jennifer M. Law, assigned to *Kitty Hawk's* V-3 department, was the first Sailor to receive the good news.

"I'm so glad the Navy takes the time to recognize Sailors who are working hard to be the best Sailors they can be," said Law.

"I love my job, and I've tried to do it to the best of my ability," Law added. "I'm glad my hard work is appreciated by my division. This is one of the happiest days of my life. Becoming a



Photo by Photographer's Mate Airman Lee McCaskill

petty officer means so much to me."

Kitty Hawk, forward deployed to Japan, is the Navy's only permanently forward-deployed aircraft carrier. For more information about USS *Kitty Hawk*, go to www.kitty-hawk.navy.mil.

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"This is a problem in the civilian world," said Deborah Rosenblum, principal director for counter-narcotics with DoD. "Anything that is as popular, where there are misconceptions about it in the civilian world, we certainly take note of it from a recruiting and readiness perspective."

Abuses in FY 2001 have slowed, according to DoD officials. Rosenblum said contributing factors are education efforts by the services and a growing awareness in the military ranks that the urine test can detect ecstasy use.

DoD plans changes in test protocols, such as weekend testing, for example. The services will also work together to see what messages resonate with service members and what tactics seem to work, according to Rosenblum.

Ecstasy is dangerous, according to the findings of a primate study, announced at a mid-July research conference in Bethesda, Md. When monkeys were given the human equivalent of four daily doses of ecstasy, they showed brain damage and behavioral changes two weeks and 18 months after the "binge." The effects noted are consistent with those observed in humans, such as memory loss and acute depression, among others.

Overall, the DoD anti-drug efforts have been successful. In 1980, surveys showed 28 percent of service members said they had abused an illegal drug in the last month. The 1998 survey stipulates that number at 2.7 percent.

For more information on ecstasy from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), go to www.usdoj.gov/dea/concern/mdma/mdmaindex.htm.

More information, including awareness training, is available online from the Navy Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Program, at <http://navdweb.spawar.navy.mil>.

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global information technology systems and services. The merger means that a single organization will be responsible for operation and management of the Navy's voice, video and data networks.

For more information on NNOC, go to www.ctfnmci.navy.mil.

This Week on Navy/Marine Corps News

Look for the following stories and more in next week's Navy/Marine Corps News:

- The Navy pays tribute to those lost in the USS *Forrestal* (CV 59) fire;
- USS *Mount Vernon* (LSD 39) Sailors train to fight fires to avoid catastrophes like *Forrestal*;
- A Pearl Harbor Sailor shows off his skill at throwing bombs;
- The CNO gives a special message to the Navy's new chief-selects.

Compiled on tape #2001-33, the show is on its way to the fleet now.

This Week in Naval History

- Aug. 13, 1812: The U.S. frigate *Essex* captures the British sloop *Alert*, after a brief battle in the Atlantic. *Alert* became the first British warship captured during the War of 1812.

- Aug. 14, 1870: Admiral David Glasgow Farragut, the Navy's first four-star admiral, dies in Portsmouth, N.H., at the age of 69. He is buried at Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, N.Y.

- Aug. 15, 1895: The Navy's first steel-hulled battleship, *Texas*, is commissioned. The ship served off Cuba during the Spanish-American War and took part in the naval battle of Santiago. The ship, renamed *San Marcos*, was later used for gunnery target practice during World War II.

- Aug. 16, 1954: Navy ships transport thousands of Vietnamese refugees from Haiphong to Saigon, Vietnam, during "Operation Passage to Freedom." According to the terms of the Geneva Accords, which ended the French Indochina War, Vietnamese who do not wish to live in the Communist-controlled north may move to the south.

- Aug. 17, 1942: USS *Nautilus* (SS 168) and USS *Argonaut* (SS 166) land more than 200 Marine Corps commandos on Makin Island in the South Pacific. This is the first time an amphibious attack is launched from submarines.

- Aug. 18, 1838: Lieutenant Charles Wilkes leads an exploring expedition of six ships on a world cruise. The expedition, the Navy's largest operation of its kind, sails from Norfolk, Va., to survey various parts of the Pacific and to explore the south polar regions.

- Aug. 19, 1916: The Naval Reserve Force is formally established when Congress authorized the "Federal Naval Reserve."

- Aug. 20, 1969: Seabees and Sailors from Helicopter Training Squadron (HT) 8 evacuate more than 800 people from Pass Christian, Miss., in the wake of Hurricane Camille.

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